



## Missionary Society of St. Columban

Columban Fathers

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February 27, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman  
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Nanci Langley  
Commissioner Mark Acton  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the entire nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. And we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission. It will also help to diminish the amount of first class replies that are created in response to our mailings.

Through our diverse ministries, we challenge the structures of poverty, illiteracy, violence and injustice. Our social, economic, medical and educational programs are open to all regardless of religious affiliation.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have a devastating impact on our mission and all of the people we serve.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Norton  
Director of Annual Giving

Your continued contributions to the Columban Fathers are greatly appreciated.

Columban Missionaries are in:

Australia + Britain + Chile + China + Fiji + Hong Kong + Ireland + Japan + Korea + Myanmar  
New Zealand + Pakistan + Peru + Philippines + Taiwan + United States